

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 14812 091704Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08  
EA-10 FRB-03 INR-07 IO-13 NEA-10 NSAE-00 OPIC-03  
SP-02 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 AGRE-00 OMB-01 SS-15  
SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00 PA-01 PRS-01 EURE-00 SSC-01  
/099 W

-----032726 091717Z /43

O R 091656Z SEP 77  
FM AMEMBASSY BONN  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1313  
INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMCONSUL BREMEN  
AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF  
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT  
AMCONSUL HAMBURG  
AMCONSUL MUNICH  
AMCONSUL STUTTGART  
USMISSION USBERLIN

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USEEC, USOECD

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ECON, GW  
SUBJ: RESIGNATION OF ECONOMICS MINISTER FRIDERICHs

1. ECONOMICS MINISTER FRIDERICHs' ABRUPT RESIGNATION  
HAS BEEN ACCEPTED BY CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT ALTHOUGH THE  
CHANCELLOR HAS REPORTEDLY ASKED FRIDERICHs TO LEAVE  
THE EFFECTIVE DATE OPEN. IT WILL CERTAINLY BE BEFORE  
THE END OF THE YEAR.

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PAGE 02 BONN 14812 091704Z

2. THE CHANCELLOR ANNOUNCED THAT HE INTENDS TO  
APPOINT OTTO GRAF LAMBSDORFF (FDP) TO REPLACE  
FRIDERICHs. LAMBSDORFF IS CONSIDERED TO BE MORE  
CONSERVATIVE AND MORE COMBATIVE THAN FRIDERICHs.

3. FRIDERICHs WILL DEFINITELY TAKE PART IN THE MAJOR

BUNDESTAG DEBATE, SEPTEMBER 15, WHICH WILL INCLUDE THE SCHMIDT GOVERNMENT'S ECONOMIC POLICY STATEMENT. FRIDERICH'S WILL GIVE UP HIS POSITION AS A DEPUTY FDP CHAIRMAN AT THE FDP PARTY CONFERENCE NOVEMBER 6-8, AND IS EXPECTED TO QUIT THE BUNDESTAG BY THE END OF 1977.

4. THE TIMING OF FRIDERICH'S DECISION HAS TAKEN OFFICIAL BONN BY SURPRISE ALTHOUGH HIS RESIGNATION HAD BEEN RUMORED FOR SOME TIME. IT PLACES ADDED PRESSURE ON THE SCHMIDT GOVERNMENT AT A SINGULARLY BAD MOMENT WHEN THE FRG FACES A NATIONAL DEBATE ON ECONOMIC POLICIES AND IS PREOCCUPIED WITH THE SCHLEYER KIDNAPPING AND THE GENERAL PROBLEM OF TERRORISM. THE RESIGNATION WAS PROBABLY MOTIVATED MAINLY BY THE ATTRACTIVENESS OF THE OFFER FROM THE DRESDNER BANK, ALTHOUGH FRUSTRATION WITH HAVING TO MANAGE THE ECONOMY AT A DIFFICULT PERIOD AND BEING CAUGHT IN THE MIDDLE OF MAJOR DISPUTES OVER ECONOMIC PHILOSOPHY WITHIN BOTH COALITION PARTIES MAY ALSO HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE DECISION.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CABINET, PERSONNEL RESIGNATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 09-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977BONN14812  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770327-0422  
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**Line Count:** 84  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 780c2c4a-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1338894  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** RESIGNATION OF ECONOMICS MINISTER FRIDERICH  
**TAGS:** ECON, GE, (FRIDERICH)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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